

Each year, I nominates outstanding high school graduates from the 1st Congressional District of Massachusetts for consideration for appointment to the [U.S. Military Academy at West Point](#) , New York; the [U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis](#) , Maryland; the [U.S. Airforce Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado](#) ; the [U.S. Coast Guard Academy at New London, Connecticut](#) ; and the [U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York](#) .

Admission criteria varies between each service academy. However, to apply for admissions you must be a 17 to 21 year old citizen of the United States, single and have no dependents.

The physical tests are characterized as "strenuous" and applicants are advised to maintain good physical fitness.

Each academy has minimum academic standards as follows: Air Force-verbal 580, math 610; West Point-verbal 550, math 550; Naval-verbal 530, Math 570; and Merchant Marines-verbal 500, math 520. Additionally, you must rank in the upper 40% of your class.

Timeline

To be considered for a Congressional nomination, please contact my aide, Keith Barnicle, at my Holyoke District Office at 413-532-7010. You will then be sent a packet that will include a biographical form that must be returned to my office along with a copy of your admission essay and three letters of recommendation (from your guidance counselor, a teacher, and a third person of your choice).

Here is a complete timeline of the process:

Junior Year

Spring – Contact my office as well as the academy to notify them of your interest in pursuing a nomination.

Senior Year

Fall – Finalize information in your congressional file by **November 30th**.

Winter – From qualified applicants, slates of ten nominees per vacancy are chosen and nominated to each academy.

Spring – Qualified nominees are offered appointments to academies based on available vacancies.

Summer – Newly appointed classes enter academies.

I look forward to hearing from you and to consider you for a nomination. If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact my aide, Keith Barnicle, in the Holyoke office at 413-532-7010.